

Bible Discovery

OPEN TABLE

There's room at His table, just as you are.

September 2026



Welcome to our Open Table discovery notes...

Luke repeatedly shows Jesus eating with people, welcoming outsiders, and creating space for those who are far from God. Around Jesus' table, lives are transformed.

As a church, we want to become known as a community that naturally invites others into relationship with Jesus and with his people. This series launches the autumn by encouraging every member to invite someone, particularly to 'Try Church – Stay for the Picnic' on 13 September, to join a Gathering, and to see Alpha as a natural next step.

The emphasis throughout is simple: Jesus welcomes people before they have everything together.

In these Bible Discovery Notes we will explore passages from Luke's Gospel that reveal Jesus' heart for hospitality, invitation, and mission. Each week asks a question that helps us reflect not only on how Jesus welcomed others, but also on how we can become people who create space for others to encounter him.

The aim is not simply to study the meals Jesus shared, but to allow his example to transform our own lives. Where are we making room for others?

Who is God prompting us to invite? How can we become a church where welcome is more than an event, it is our way of life?

Reading List:

Week 1: Jesus Welcomes Outsiders

How does following Jesus change who we make room for? Luke 5:31–32

Week 2: God's Heart for the Lost

Why does every person matter so much to God? Luke 15:4–7

Week 3: Accepting God's Invitation

What keeps people from responding to God's invitation? Luke 14:23 (wider context starts in v16)

Week 4: Bringing Others to Jesus

Who could you help take one step closer to Jesus? Luke 5:20

Father God please fill us with the knowledge of your will with all wisdom and spiritual understanding. Holy Spirit give us the discernment we need as we walk in God's will and study His Word. In every moment of life help us live in a manner worthy of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Reminder on how to approach Bible discovery:

- Before you meet:**
- Find the passage of scripture.
 - Copy it out.
 - Then pray, think and ask God what he is saying to you.
 - Then rewrite the passage in your own words.

Bible discovery study:

1. Pray for help.
2. One person reads the passage.
3. Then take it in turns to read out your own versions of the passage.
4. Then discuss.
5. For each person consider the application. Ask:
 - What grabbed your attention in the passage?
 - Was there anything you particularly liked in the passage?
 - Was there anything that bothered you in the passage?
 - What does this passage say about God?
 - What does this passage say about us?
 - If this is God speaking, what are you going to do about it?
 - Who can you share with this week what God is doing in your life?